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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/781,197

02/18/2004

Ray Siuta

200300281-1

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02/09/2006

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EXAMINER

WALSH, DANIEL I

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2876

DATE MAILED: 02/09/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/781,197	<b>Applicant(s)</b> SIUTA ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> Daniel I. Walsh	<b>Art Unit</b> 2876	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.  
     4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 19-21 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 and 10-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 9, 17 and 18 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
     Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
     Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
     a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |                                                                                                                        |                                                                                         |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                                            | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____.                                                |

### DETAILED ACTION

1. Receipt is acknowledged of the Election received on 29 November 2005.

#### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112*

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 8 recites the limitation "the security module" in line 1. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. For purposes of Examination, the Examiner has interpreted that the security module comprises the memory and interface.

Appropriate clarification/correction is required.

#### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-5 and 7-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ross et al. (US 2005/0010525).

Re claims 1-3. Ross et al. teaches a pliable fabric comprising human readable information, a memory attached to the pliable fabric in which machine readable

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information about the secure document is stored and an interface attached to the pliable fabric and coupled to the memory that when a reader device reads the secure document, transmits at least a portion of the machine readable information stored in the memory to the reader device, that the document is secure currency, and that the fabric includes artwork that includes human readable information (FIG. 6).

Re claim 4-5, Ross et al. teaches that the artwork comprises a barcode comprising a watermark (FIG. 6, where the bar code is printed using fluorescent ink, which is interpreted by the Examiner to be invisible, and hence is interpreted as a watermark). The Examiner has interpreted a watermark as a means to provide an identification regarding the authenticity of a document, and notes that watermarks can be visible to the human eye, or alternatively, only visible under certain conditions.

Re claim 7, the currency is one of cloth, paper, and laminate (FIG. 6).

Re claim 8, an RF interface/sensor has been discussed above that communicates with the reader.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ross et al., as discussed above, in view of Lee (US 2005/0123888).

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Re claim 6, the teachings of Ross et al. have been discussed above. Though Ross et al. teaches printing an invisible/watermarked barcode, Ross et al. is silent to using magnetic ink.

The Examiner notes that magnetic inks are well know for use in currency, and for use in invisible/watermark barcodes. Specifically, Lee teaches that magnetic ink uses have been documented for use in US paper money systems, and that the magnetic ink can be used to provide an invisible barcode (paragraph [0014]).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine the teachings of Ross et al. with those of Lee.

One would have been motivated to do this in order to provide an invisible/watermarked barcode using means that are well known and conventional for providing currency on US dollars/currency.

5. Claims 10-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ross et al., as discussed above.

Re claim 10, the limitations have been discussed above re claim 1. Ross et al. teaches the RFID interface attached to fabric and also that it has a memory (paragraph [0097]). Though silent to the RF interface transmitting a portion of the machine readable currency information stored to a reader device when the interface receives a signal by the reader, the Examiner notes that it is well known and conventional for RF devices to communicate with a reader that interrogates the device, in order to exchange information. Accordingly, such communication is well know and conventional in the art for wireless communication, and is an obvious expedient.

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Re claim 11, Ross et al. teaches the human readable currency information comprises at least one of a human readable identifier and a human readable denomination (paragraph [0097]).

Re claim 12, the machine readable currency information includes at least one of a machine readable identifier and a machine readable denomination (paragraph [0098]).

Re claims 13-15, the Examiner notes that though Ross et al. is silent to a power extraction circuit that extracts power from the reader signal to power the security module, and that the RF interface comprises a transmit and receive circuit in order to transmit to the reader and receive and extract information encoded and sent by the reader, such limitations are well known and conventional in the art. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art for the currency to be a passive RF device (powered by the reader) to have a practical, lost cost, and unobtrusive means of RF communication with currency/documents, as is conventional in the art. Additionally, the RF interface would need to have a transmit and receive circuit in order to be able communicate information to and from the reader. Re claims 14-15, the Examiner notes that separate transmit/receive circuits or integrated transmit/receive units are well known and conventional in the art to receive and send information wirelessly, and are chosen based on design constraints, system constraints (separate circuits allows one direction of transfer to be used even if the other direction breaks, unlike in an integrated send/receive circuit), cost, etc., and such a selection is within the ordinary skill in the art. Accordingly, the Examiner notes that such limitations are well within the skill in the art in order to have a RF interface that is able to communicate bidirectional with a reader.

Re claim 16, authorization information is stored in the memory (paragraph [0098]).

*Allowable Subject Matter*

6. Claims 9 and 17-18 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

7. Claims 19-21 are allowed.

8. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: The prior art of record fails to teach or fairly suggest to one of ordinary skill in the art, in conjunction with all the other limitations of the subject claim(s) and any claim(s) upon which the subject claims depend, that the sensor detects a chemical signature (re claim 9), an integrity meter that determines the integrity of a connection between the security module and the pliable fabric (re claim 17), and a currency comprising a fabric, and a security module attached to the fabric, where the module comprises a memory which stores information about the currency and an ink reservoir wherein when the module receives a predetermined command, the module releases ink stored in the reservoir to mark the fabric (re claim 19). All remaining claims indicated as allowable are either directly or indirectly dependent upon the claim(s) specifically referred to above and are allowable for the same reasons

### *Conclusion*

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. 2003/0006121 (FIG.2 which shows passive RF interface in currency for communication with a reader), Baldi (US 6,547,151) teaches secure currency with a memory storing information (FIG. 1+, abstract), Jagielinski (US 5,545,885), Brady et al. (US 6,100,804), Ohanian et al. (US 6,109,526), Yap et al. (US 6,111,506), Kolesar et al. (US 6,177,683), Messina (US 6,463,416), Krul et al. (US 6,830,192), Jones et al. (US 6,843,418), Teraura (US 2002/0170973), Lee et al. (US 2003/0006121), Hull et al. (US 2004/0041707), Lane et al. (US 2004/0100363), Zaba et al. (US 2004/0134994), Lane et al. (US 2004/0233040), Csulits et al. (US 2005/0040225), and Takizawa et al. (US 5,201,395).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daniel I. Walsh whose telephone number is (571) 272-2409. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:30-4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael G. Lee can be reached on (571) 272-2398. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

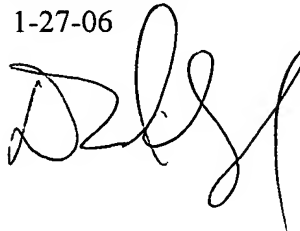
Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you



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have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Daniel I Walsh  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2876  
1-27-06

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. I. Walsh', written over the printed name and date.